

IN THE SPECIFICATION

1. Please amend the specification as filed at page 13, lines 6-14 as follows:

5 -- As used herein, the term "head-end" refers generally to a networked system
controlled by an operator (e.g., an MSO or ~~multimedia-specific operator~~ multiple
10 systems operator) that distributes programming to MSO clientele using client
devices. Such programming may include literally any information source/receiver
including, inter alia, free-to-air TV channels, pay TV channels, interactive TV,
and the Internet. DSTBs may literally take on any configuration, and can be retail
15 devices meaning that consumers may or may not obtain their DSTBs from the
MSO exclusively. Accordingly, it is anticipated that MSO networks may have
client devices from multiple vendors, and these client devices will have widely
varying hardware capabilities. Multiple regional head-ends may be in the same or
different cities. --

2. Please amend the specification as filed at page 15, lines 25-31 as follows:

20 -- Exemplary embodiments of the apparatus and methods of the present invention
are now described in detail. While these exemplary embodiments are described in
the context of the aforementioned hybrid fiber coax (HFC) cable system
architecture having an ~~multimedia-specific operator~~ multiple systems operator
(MSO), digital networking capability, and plurality of client devices/CPE, the
25 general principles and advantages of the invention may be extended to other types
of networks and architectures, whether broadband, narrowband, wired or wireless,
or otherwise, the following therefore being merely exemplary in nature. --

3. Please amend the specification as filed at page 27, lines 11-31 as follows:

30 -- It will further be appreciated that the extension protocols and associated
techniques of the present invention can also advantageously be used in
conjunction with (and without interfering with) other functions resident in the
CPE, such as for example the hardware registry described in co-owned and co-
pending U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/723,959 filed November 24, 2003
and entitled "METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR HARDWARE
35 REGISTRATION IN A NETWORK DEVICE", the error logging functionality
described in co-owned and co-pending U.S. patent application Serial No.
10/722,206 filed November 24, 2003 and entitled "METHODS AND
APPARATUS FOR EVENT LOGGING IN AN INFORMATION NETWORK",
and the display element management functionality described in co-owned and co-
40 pending U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/_____{TBD} 10/773,664 filed
February 6, 2004 and entitled "METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR DISPLAY

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ELEMENT MANAGEMENT IN AN INFORMATION NETWORK”, each incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. For example, events or errors generated through access or manipulation of OD applications can be logged within the aforementioned error logging system for later use or analysis. As
5 another alternative, setting the prefixes upon application launch (see Fig. 3) can be predicated upon notification from the hardware registry (or an access thereof by the application launched) that sufficient hardware or resources is/are present to support the OD capability of the application is present on the CPE. Similarly, the
10 aforementioned display element (e.g., window) manager can be adapted to include the extended application within its visibility stack upon launch of the application. Myriad other possible uses and interactions between the various inventions are also possible, as will be recognized by those of ordinary skill. --

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RESTRICTION ELECTION

5 By this paper, Applicant elects without traverse the invention of Group II (Claims 12-24 and 34) drawn to developing component to managing functions, classified in class 717, subclass 120 and 177, per Page 2 of the Office Action. Applicant herein cancels the remaining non-elected claims without prejudice (including Claims 1-11 and 25-33). Applicant submits that all claims presented herein for examination (including new Claims 35-58) read on the elected Group II invention.